Extension of LPG facilities to rural areas

2494. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for extending LPG facility to the rural areas ; and

(b)what is the number of LPG connections released during the year 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) No, Sir. Oil industry is at present covering towns with a population of 20,000 and above (as per 1981 Census) in a phased manner, for providing LPG facility. However, rural areas falling on the periphery of towns having LPG facility or those in the hilly or desert areas are being provided LPG facility.

(b) During the year 1988-89, oil companies had released approximately 11.62 lakhs of LPG connections all over the country.

Prices of Dexamethasone and its salts

2495. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the producers of Dexamathasone and its salts and what was the production of each during the last four years, year-wise ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these drugs were not specified in the first schedule under DPCO, 1970;

(c) if so, what were the prices of bulk drugs declared by each producer ;

(d) what were the prices fixed by each producer for each pack of each of their formulations;

(e) whether it is a fact that these drugs were covered under Drug Prices Control Order, 1979 ;

(f) if so what were the prices fixed for these drugs and their formulations and when were the same revised ; and

(g) what was the revised price of each formulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) The details of production of Dexamethasone bulk drug during the last four years are given below :

Unit/KGS .

Name of the Company	Production			
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Merind Ltd.	160.65	169.14	236.32	134.00
Cadila Labs.	53.31	51.89	84.86	104.00
Lupin Labs.	..	27.96	..	..